Blood is not based on facts. However, the Government as a policy has been promoting rational use of blood by setting up Blood Component Separation Units (BCSUs) all over the Country. In Pbase-I (1992-99) of National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) the Government has assisted in the modernization/setting up of 40 BCSUs in the country and in Phase-ll another 41 centres have been identified. Guidelines on rational use of blood have been circulated.

(c) Equipment are being procured for the 41 BCSUs under NACP Phase-ll.

**Involvement of officials in granting approval for New Medical Colleges**

2956. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBI has recently alleged that several high level officials in his Ministry aitd top medical practitioners are indulging in granting approval for opening medical and dental colleges in the country;

(b) if so, the facts and the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry had grossly flouted the recommendations of MCI while granting permission to open such medical and dental colleges in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) No reference has been received from CBI making such allegations.

(c) and (d) New medical and dental colleges are permitted with the approval of the compentent authority after taking into account all the relevant factors including the reports of the concerned professional Councils.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply to (c) and (d) above.